

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 ARA-06

AF-06 OIC-02 ERDA-05 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SS-15

STR-04 /143 W

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R 141723Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 9225

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BERN

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PASS TREASURY

PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, EGEN, EAID

SUBJECT: OECD AD HOC HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON OECD-LDC

ECONOMIC RELATIONS (NORTH/SOUTH GROUP), NOVEMBER 12-13

1. NORTH-SOUTH GROUP SESSION HELPED ADVANCE U.S. CONCEPTS ON CONTENT AND STRATEGY FOR THE DIALOGUE, BUT INDICATED ONCE AGAIN THAT WE ARE WAY AHEAD OF EC AND OTHER OECD COUNTRIES IN CONSIDERATION OF DIALOGUE AND LDC ISSUES GENERALLY. ON EVERY AGENDA ITEM U.S., WITH SOME HELP FROM THE CHAIRMAN, HAD TO CARRY A LARGELY PASSIVE GROUP TO ITS CONCLUSIONS. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (SEPTEL) HIGHLIGHTS MANY OF THE KEY POINTS U.S. DEL (BOEKER) MADE ON WORK OF DIALOGUE'S (CIEC'S) DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

A. OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK FOR AGENDA BASED ON EIGHT-POINT LIST TABLED BY U.S. AT THE SECOND PREPCON.

B. OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD PUSH FORWARD PROPOSALS THAT INVOLVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OIL PRODUCERS' PARTICIPATION, GIVEN OBJECTIVE OF INTEGRATING THEM INTO THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM, AND DESIRABILITY OF USING UNIQUE DIALOGUE STRUCTURE FOR WHAT IT MIGHT DO BETTER THAN U.N. AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

C. FINANCIAL COOPERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN FIRST PRIORITY, FOR BOTH SUBSTANTIVE AND TACTICAL REASONS (WE HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER, BUT OPEC ENGAGED AS WELL).

D. IMMEDIATE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS NEEDS OF LDC'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD BE GIVEN SEPARATE EARLY TREATMENT AND OECD COUNTRIES SHOULD COME ARMED WITH ANALYSIS OF VARYING FINANCIAL PROBLEMS DIFFERENT GROUPS OF LDC'S FACE.

E. DISPARATE FINANCING PROBLEMS LDC'S FACE CALL FOR A DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH STRESSING TRUST FUND AND OTHER HIGHLY CONCESSIONAL AID FOR THE POOREST AND MSA'S AND CAPITAL MARKET ACCESS AND IMF FINANCING, SUCH AS

LIBERALIZED TRANCHE POLICIES, FOR RAPIDLY INDUSTRIALIZING
LDC'S.

F. DIALOGUE OFFERS PARTICULAR OPPORTUNITY TO
ADVANCE VARIOUS MULTILATERAL FUND PROPOSALS (E.G.
IFAD, IFC, IDA) AND OIL PRODUCER PARTICIPATION THEREIN,
WITHOUT NEGLECTING BILATERAL AID.

G. SPECIAL MEASURES FOR LDC'S IN THE MTN ARE
LIKELY TO BE SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE POINT IN LDC'S CONCEPT
OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

2. MAJOR PROBLEM IN GROUP'S DISCUSSIONS WAS LACK OF EC
POSITION. FRENCH INSISTED UPON (AND U.K.
PARTICIPATED IN) EC COORDINATION BEFORE GROUP MEETING,
BUT ONLY POINT OF AGREEMENT AMONG EC MEMBERS WAS THAT
NO FIRM POSITIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN ON THE COURSE OF THE
DIALOGUE. U.K. IN PARTICULAR WAS UNWILLING TO HAVE EC
SUPPORT ANY INITIATIVES WITH POSSIBLE PRICE TAGS ON
THEM. IN THE GROUP ITSELF, U.K. REP STRESSED THAT U.K.'S
PARTICIPATION IN EC COORDINATION FOR NORTH/SOUTH GROUP
WAS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS CLAIM FOR SEPARATE U.K.
REPRESENTATION IN THE DIALOGUE. EC COUNTRIES WERE ALSO

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NOT PREPARED TO TACKLE PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS DESIRED
FREQUENCY OF COMMISSION MEETINGS, POSSIBLE SUB-GROUPS,
ETC.

3. CHAIRMAN ROBERT BRUTALLY PRESSED DUTCH AND SWEDES
TO AGREE THAT THEIR PROPOSED DEBT MORATORIUM FOR MSA'S
SHOULD NOT BE RAISED IN DIALOGUE SINCE COUNTRIES REPRESENTING
'99.3 PERCENT" OF DEBT DUE OECD COUNTRIES COULD
NOT SUPPORT GENERAL DEBT RELIEF. NEEDLESS TO SAY, SWEDES
AND DUTCH WERE UNWILLING TO AGREE TO KILL THEIR OWN
PROPOSAL WHEN MEMBERS OF COMMISSION HAVE NOT EVEN BEEN
SELECTED. BOTH STRESSED THAT OECD MEMBER COORDINATION
WOULD NOT PRECLUDE LONE RANGING IN THE COMMISSION.
FRG DEL TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT ROBERT'S PERFORMANCE
REFLECTED CABINET DECISION OVERRULING COOPERATION

MINISTER BAHR ON HIS DEBT MORATORIUM PROPOSAL.

4. AT U.S. SUGGESTION, SECRETARIAT WILL PREPARE SEVERAL STUDIES AND REPORTS, INCLUDING LDC BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION AND STATUS OF MULTILATERAL FINANCING INSTITUTION INITIATIVES. THESE WILL BE PREPARED WITH OBJECTIVE OF POSSIBLY TABLING THEM IN DIALOGUE.

5. AT U.S. SUGGESTION, GROUP ALSO AGREED TO ADD UNCTAD IV PREPARATIONS TO ITS AGENDA FOR MEETINGS AFTER JANUARY 1, IN LIGHT OF LIKELY BI-PLAY BETWEEN DIALOGUE AND UNCTAD IV ON SEVERAL KEY ISSUES SUCH AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND DEBT.

6. NORTH/SOUTH WILL MEET NEXT ON DECEMBER 19, AFTER CIEC MINISTERIAL, WITH AGENDA OF:

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A. REVIEW O/ MINISTERIAL;

B. PROGRESS OF MTN, ON THE BASIS OF REPORT FROM A GATT SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE AND REPORT ON RELEVANT TRADE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES;

C. REPORT OF THE DAC AND SUB-GROUP ON INDUSTRIALIZATION. THE GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN IN JANUARY BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CONVENES TO TAKE UP PRIMARILY FINANCIAL COOPERATION ISSUES. AT ITS JANUARY MEETING, THE GROUP WILL ALSO TAKE UP AN EXPECTED DAC REPORT ON LDC DEBT (DUTCH/SWEDE MORATORIUM PROPOSAL).

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